REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20 in light of the arguments herein are respectfully requested.

Prior art Rejections

Claims 1-4, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent number 6,269,361 to Davis, et al., in view of U.S. patent publication number 2993/0055743 to Murcko, Jr. ("Murcko"). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Murcko and further in view of Mann. Claims 14-17 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Murcko and further in view of U.S. patent number 6,662,8954 to McGowan ("McGowan"). Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of U.S. patent number 6,678,664 to Ganesan ("Ganesan") and further in view of U.S. patent number 6,557,007 to Pekowski, et al. ("Pekowski"). Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Ganesan and further in view of U.S. patent number 5,963,924 to Williams, et al. ("Williams"). Finally, claim 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Murcko and McGowan and further in view of Williams. Reconsideration of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Operation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c)

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent number 6,269,361 to Davis, et al ("Davis") in view of other cited references. Withdrawal of this rejection as being improper under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) is respectfully requested.

Section 103(c) provides

(c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the

Application no. 09/922,090

Amendment dated: January 30, 2006

Reply to office action dated: November 30, 2005

invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

The present application and Davis are commonly owned or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity at the time the invention was made. The present application is assigned to Overture Services, Inc., as recorded at reel 013410 frame 0392. A copy of the assignment digest for this application is attached hereto. At the time the invention was made, the inventors had assigned or were under obligation to assign the invention to Overture Services, Inc. Davis is also assigned to Overture Services, Inc. as recorded at reel 012621, frame 0446. A copy of the assignment digest for Davis is attached hereto. Davis was originally filed and assigned to GoTo.com, which was subsequently merged with Overture Services, Inc.

Accordingly, by operation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c), the subject matter of Davis should not preclude patentability of the present application. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on this reference is respectfully requested.

With this response, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Rauch

Registration No. 37,218 Attorney for Applicant

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7 morney for Application 2006

January 30, 2006 BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 (312) 321-4200



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Patent Assignment Abstract of Title

Total Assignments: 2

Application #: 09922090 Filing Dt: 08/03/2001 Patent #: NONE **Issue Dt:** PCT #: NONE Publication #: NONE Pub Dt:

Inventors: Dominic Cheung, SCOTT A. SHIFLETT, DARREN J. DAVIS, EUGENE F. HU, SCOTT W. SNELL

Title: Search engine account monitoring

Assignment: 1

Recorded: Mailed: Pages: 013066 / Received: Reel/Frame: 09/10/2002 0564 07/09/2002 07/12/2002

Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Exec Dt: 01/21/2002 Assignor: CHEUNG, DOMINIC

Assignee: OVERTURE SERVICES, INC.

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Assignment: 2

013410 / Received: Recorded: Mailed: Pages: Reel/Frame: 02/06/2003

Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

10/28/2002

Assignors: CHEUNG, DOMINIC DOUGH-MING Exec Dt: 09/18/2002

Exec Dt: 09/18/2002 SHIFFLETT, SCOTT A.

Exec Dt: 09/11/2002 DAVIS, DARREN J.

10/21/2002

Exec Dt: 09/18/2002 HU, EUGENE F. Exec Dt: 09/18/2002 SNELL, SCOTT W.

Assignee: OVERTURE SERVICES, INC.

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Patent Assignment Abstract of Title

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Total Assignments: 3

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INFLUENCING A POSITION ON A SEARCH RESULT LIST

GENERATED BY A COMPUTER NETWORK SEARCH ENGINE

Assignment: 1

Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Assignors: DAVIS, DARREN J. Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

DERER, MATTHEW Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

GARCIA, JOHANN Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

<u>GRECO, LARRY</u> **Exec Dt:** 07/29/1999

KURT, TOD E. **Exec Dt:** 07/29/1999

KWONG, THOMAS Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

LEE, JONATHAN C. Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

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PFARNER, PRESTON Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

SKOVRAN, STEVE Exec Dt: 07/29/1999

Assignee: GOTO.COM, INC.

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Assignment: 2

Conveyance: MERGER (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Assignor: GOTO.COM, INC Exec Dt: 10/02/2001

Assignee: OVERTURE SERVICES, INC.

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P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, IL 60610

Assignment: 3

Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Assignors: SOULANILLE, THOMAS A. Exec Dt: 02/25/2002

GALLINATTI, JR., JAMES B. Exec Dt: 02/26/2002

Assignee: OVERTURE SERVICES, INC.

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